(b) The reasons for the increase in the activities of extremists belonging to the NSCN can be attributed to its keenness to (i) boost the morale of the NSCN; personnel (ii) replenish its losses in terms of material and resources; (iii) maintain its militant image.

(c) In order to curb the activities of the extremists, the para-military forces have been placed at the disposal of the State Governments|UT Administration. Vigil on the border has been increased. The State Governments|UT Administration have been advised to utilise the provisions of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1985, to curb the activities of extremists. The disturbed area belt on the Indo-Burma border has been extended from 5 kms. to 20 kms. in Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh to check the infiltration of extremists. Manipur stands declared as 'disturbed area'. The State Governments of Nagaland and Manipur have been asked to tighten the security arrangements in banks|treasuries.

1550. [*Transferred to the 12th August, 1986.*]

Enquiry into disppearance of AN-32 Aircraft

1551. SHRI ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 463 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1986 and state:

(a) when the Courts of Inquiry to investigate into the disappearance of two AN-32 Aircraft on March, 22 and 25, 1986, respectively, were ordered; and

(b) whether it is a fact that India has been the lone buyer of AN-32 Aircraft from the Soviet Union and even the Soviet Union does not use these gigantic transport aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) They were ordered on 23rd and 26th March, 1986, respectively.

(b) The Soviet Union does not use the AN-32 aircraft but other versions of this medium light aircraft. The AN-32 aircraft was specifically designed for the Indian Air Force to meet its requirements of high altitude operation in particular.

Payments for acquisition of silicon Technology from US

1552. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received reports in December, 1985 that indigenous silicon had been certified by several laboratories including one in US as being of very high quality i.e. of the electronic grade and despite this Government had paid 16,75,000 US dollars to an American Company in February, 1986 for acquisition of silicon technology; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and for making payment of 6,70,000 US dollars to the same company earlier when samples of high grade silicon were available in the country itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) In the period November 1984 to January 1985, Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources had forwarded to Department of Electronics copies of reports on tests carried out by labora-